

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:567

ANSWERED ON:21.10.2008

BROADBAND CONNECTIONS IN SCHOOLS COLLEGES

Gaikwad Shri Eknath Mahadeo;Khan Shri Mohammad Tahir;Mane Smt. Nivedita;Pingle Shri Devidas Anandrao;Yaskhi Shri Madhu Goud

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government proposes to provide all schools/colleges with broadband connections free of cost;
- (b) if so,the details thereof;
- (c) the criteria fixed for selection of schools/colleges in this regard;and
- (d) the number of schools/colleges selected for the purpose in the year 2008-09,State-wise?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT(SHRI M.A.A. FATMI)

(a)to(c) Under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of "Information and Communication Technology (ICT) in schools",there is provision for internet connectivity in Government and Government aided secondary and higher secondary schools subject to availability of telecom infrastructure in the vicinity and based on viable proposals from the State Governments and further subject to availability of funds.University Grants Commission has informed that its Regional Offices have invited proposals from eligible colleges under the Scheme of UGC Network Resource Centre.

Under the Scheme of "ICT in Schools",States are required to cover at least two schools located in each educationally block under the scheme.

Colleges which are covered under Section 2 (f) and 12(B) of the UGC Act,are eligible to receive financial assistance from UGC.

(d) The number of schools selected for the purpose in the year 2008-09,State-wise is annexed.